Wedneſday, April 1. 1761.

To the Citizens of EDINBURGH.

GENTLEMEN,

I MUST join the public voice, in applauding my reſpected, tho' unknown fellow-citizen, who, by his letter of yeſterday, has pointed out to us more effectual meaſures than have hitherto been purſued, for fruſtrating the preſent pernicious ſcheme of introducing a ſtranger to repreſent us in parliament.

I CONGRATULATE him on the good effects of his interpoſition, on the ſpirit of unanimity and reſolution that prevails amongſt all ranks of men, all jointly contributing to that one great end. Believe me, Sirs, this, and this only, can render us invincible, can enable us to fruſtrate effectually all ſuch attempts for the future, and entitle us to that regard, in all public meaſures, which is due to a free people. Shall I, however, tell you, Sirs, that, amidſt the general ſatisfaction, many worthy citizens, as well as myſelf, are concerned to find, that the meaſures now purſuing tend to the prejudice of ſome of our fellow-citizens, who, though they were ſurpriſed into the ſigning of that ſhameful letter, yet deteſt, and always did, the uſe that has been made of it, and are equally ready with any of us to give the moſt ſignal marks of their diſapprobation. If they were not men who act from duty and principle, would not the treatment they have met with be apt to ſour and chagrin them; nay, perhaps, lead them to make a ſecond falſe ſtep, and vote for the very perſon they are now ſo firmly determined to oppoſe? This reflection will, I hope, induce you, my fellow-citizens, to act with your uſual candour; and, in place of waſting your fire againſt ſome of our own brethren, engage you to unite all your force againſt the common enemy. With this view, my brethren, I beg leave to offer to you the following plan: That you immediately name for your repreſentative, and reſolve to ſupport, ſome one citizen of the eleven who refuſed to ſign the letter, who ſhall be men capable of ſupporting your intereſts: That you unanimouſly agree to aſſiſt him with all your influence, in oppoſition to any ſtranger that ſhall be named. Then, my brethren, there is good reaſon to hope that you will ſoon have a majority

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majority of the electors. But ſhould it be otherwiſe, and that there are amongſt us ſpirits ſo mean and ſervile, that they will truckle to power, and fly in the face of their united country; then, my brethren, let them be noted as they juſtly deſerve. Nor ſhall my voice and pen be wanting for that purpoſe. Whatever ſuch may do, it is ſome conſolation to find, that they will not be able to bring their pernicious ſcheme to bear. I ſpeak with confidence, my brethren, having already, for the good of my fellow-citizens, conſulted an eminent lawyer, who ſays there is the higheſt probability, that an election made by a majority voting by order from a Peer, will be reduced in parliament, upon proof of that fact. The caſe and opinion will, if neceſſary, be publiſhed for the benefit of my fellow-citizens. But as this meaſure may be expenſive, and may deter ſome who are well qualified for ſitting in parliament, from engaging in a conteſted election; I have the pleaſure to be able to aſſure my fellow-citizens, that a ſubſcription has been propoſed to defray the expenſe, and that a very conſiderable ſum has already been offered, which is to be given into the hands of ſome proper perſon as ſoon as this meaſure ſhall be thought proper or neceſſary.

I HAVE but one thing more to mention, that as it is the duty, ſo will it, I am ſure, be the inclination of all my fellow-citizens, to encourage and promote all the free and independent electors in the way of their buſineſs; which, with the good-will of all the inhabitants, will ſerve as an example to futurity, That virtue is, even in this life, more profitable than corruption and venality. And I propoſe, that, immediately after the election, a liſt of the free voters be publiſhed, that the inhabitants may be able to diſtinguiſh them by their good-will, as they ſhall deſerve. Theſe meaſures, my dear brethren, followed cloſely, will ſoon prevent the poſſibility of ever intruding a ſtranger upon us; which is the earneſt prayer of

Your fellow-citizen and wellwiſher, *&c.*